Israel and Palestine: The Roots of Conflict

*Background of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is featured in this video. These questions will help focus the discussion:*

1. Who is involved in this conflict?
2. What region is at the heart of the conflict?
3. Describe the claim that both groups have on this region.
4. What is Israel? When was it founded and by whom?
5. What is the Zionist Movement?
6. Describe the role of the U.S. in the establishment of Israel, a Jewish state.
7. How did the Holocaust affect the formation of a Jewish homeland?
8. What is the PLO? Whom does it represent?
9. Which nations are opposed to a Jewish state?
10. What was the intifada? Who was involved and what caused it?
11. What effect did World War II have on the conflict?
12. What caused the rise of militant Islam? What is its link to modern terrorism?
13. What is Hamas?
14. Briefly summarize the following leaders’ association with and role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (Where are they from and what did they do?):

Yasser Arafat

Menachem Begin

Anwar Sadat

Jimmy Carter

Yitzhak Rabin

Bill Clinton

Shimon Peres

Benjamin Netanyahu

Ehud Barak

Ariel Sharon